



The WisDOT Connector *Express*

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Gold Star plates that honor fallen heroes now available

The Division of Motor Vehicles has started issuing Gold Star Family license plates. The new plates will be issued to any person who has had an immediate family member die in combat while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. An immediate family member is defined as a spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling, child, stepchild, stepparent, grandchild, or the spouse of a grandparent, parent, sibling, child, stepchild, stepparent or grandchild. Applicants will be required to sign a statement affirming the deceased veteran died in combat and meets the above requirements. The plates may be issued to any surviving immediate family member of a veteran of any armed conflict past or present involving the U.S. Armed Forces. Gold Star Family plates are available for the following motor vehicles: automobiles, motor homes (with annual registration only), light trucks having a gross weight of 4,500, 6,000 or 8,000 pounds including dual purpose farm and dual purpose motor homes and 12,000 pound gross weight farm trucks.

- Other than the regular \$55 registration fee, there is no issuance fee for the plates.
- If an applicant requests a personalized plate, a \$15 personalized plate fee will be charged at initial issuance and at each annual renewal of the plates, and plates may be personalized with up to six alpha and/or numeric characters not to include any spaces.
- Gold Star Family plates carry no special parking privileges.

<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/vehicles/personal/special/goldstar.htm>.

Milwaukee high school "ACES" set sights on summer internships

About 35 Milwaukee high school students will soon begin summer internships at General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA) as part of the state's Aviation Careers and Education (ACE) program. The seven-week ACE internships partner the Milwaukee Public School System, GMIA-based employers and WisDOT to provide disadvantaged youths valuable work experience and first-hand experience in the aviation industry. Interns work in aircraft maintenance, baggage handling, ticketing, administrative duties and other jobs under the supervision of seasoned employees.

Popularity of Park and Ride lots growing

Park and ride lots are enjoying renewed popularity in the wake of high gasoline prices. Information about park and ride lots in Wisconsin can be found on the Web at <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/parkride/index.htm>. The site shows individual lot names, lot locations and contact information by region. It also contains links to information regarding vanpool and rideshare programs.

Upcoming events

August 23-24 – Governor's Conference on Highway Safety

Check www.dot.wisconsin.gov/news/events/index.htm for more event listings and details.

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